

51-07 Nupro Gold Total Tooth Whitening System (Project 96-64) (04/97)

The Nupro Total Tooth Whitening System is a clear, syringe-based, 10 percent carbamide peroxide home bleaching product. Dentsply/Ash recommends the gel for treating extrinsically stained teeth, especially those that have a yellow, orange, or light brown color. The treatment process with Nupro Gold is similar to that of other home bleaching products. The clinician makes an alginate impression, and the laboratory pours a cast and fabricates a thin tray. The bleaching agent is then provided to the patient with application instructions. Dentsply/Ash claims that the gel's high viscosity and adhesiveness enhance its effectiveness by helping to retain it in the tray. The tray material in the kit has a textured side that is purported to provide a larger surface area for gel application to the teeth. The gel is mint flavored for better patient acceptance. Nupro Gold is



available in three kits: the Deluxe Kit, Standard Kit, and Touch-Up Kit. The Deluxe Kit contains 10 3-mL syringes of the gel, 2 sheets of tray material, 2 packets of Jeltrate Plus alginate, 2 packets of Labstone dental stone, 1 tube of Triad visible-light-activated resin, 1 tube of 2.0 percent sodium fluoride gel, tray case, patient's instructions, doctor's instructions, and a paper shade guide. The Triad resin is applied to the cast to produce a reservoir area in the tray for the gel. The smaller Standard Kit is essentially the Deluxe Kit without the alginate, stone, Triad resin, and fluoride. The Touch-Up Kit contains 5 3-mL syringes of gel and patient instructions. This project evaluated the Standard Kit.

Manufacturer:

Dentsply/Ash
Dentsply International
570 West College Avenue
York, PA 17405-0872
(800) 877-0020 Ext. 180
(717) 845-7511
(717) 843-5951 FAX

Suggested Retail Price:

\$198.00 Standard Kit (item number 614017) case of four kits; each kit contains:
10 3-mL syringes of tooth whitener
1 tray storage case
1 shade guide
patient's instructions
doctor's instructions

Government Price:

\$119.50 Standard Kit (item number and contents as listed above)

ADVANTAGES:

- + All 34 patients treated in the evaluation reported being "Very Satisfied" or "Satisfied" with their results.
- + Clinical evaluators were impressed with the speed with which product produced results.
- + Expiration date and lot number are printed on box.
- + Product's pH is high enough to prevent it from demineralizing enamel during treatment.
- + Gel's high viscosity and stickiness help retain it in the tray.
- + Syringes contain a generous amount of bleaching gel.
- + Tray material has appropriate thickness and durability.

DISADVANTAGES:

- Product's high viscosity, stickiness, and blunt-end dispensing syringes make it difficult to place the gel into the tray in discrete amounts.

- Package design does not securely hold product.
- Paper shade guide was of limited usefulness.
- Patient instruction card is confusing in its design and refers to use of fluoride gel not provided in the Standard Kit.
- Tray material is flexible and, therefore, more time consuming to trim during fabrication.
- Not provided with a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

Nupro Gold was well received by patients who expressed a high degree of satisfaction with the product. Most were pleased with the gel's flavor and ease of use. The results in tooth lightening satisfied all of the 34 patients treated during the evaluation. The gel's increased viscosity and tackiness facilitated its retention in the tray, which should effectively extend its duration of activity. Clinicians commented positively about the speed with which Nupro produced tooth lightening. One disadvantage of the gel's thickness was that it made it somewhat difficult to place into the tray, especially when localized amounts were placed. Although the gel is slightly more acidic than Dentsply/Ash claims, its pH (6.0) is high enough that it should not cause enamel to demineralize. Patients reported some side effects such as tooth sensitivity, gingival irritation, and nausea. These side effects are common to most bleaching products and did not appear particularly severe or frequent with Nupro. The tray material supplied with Nupro has an appropriate thickness: it is thick enough to provide durability but thin enough to prevent occlusal and joint problems. Although the expiration date is stamped on the box, it would be more helpful to have it stamped on each individual syringe of the gel. The kit's packaging leaves something to be desired. The box has a top that slips over the bottom (which is where the product is located). If the box is gripped from the sides, the contents fall to the floor. In summary, the product was well-received, easy-to-use, and produced excellent results in a relatively short period of time. **Nupro Gold Total Tooth Whitening System** is rated **Acceptable** for use by the federal dental services.